

orig! Overseas Press
Club

EMERGENCY COMMITTEE FORMS TO AID MERGER CASUALTIES

For the fourth time in four years, the OPC has taken the initiative in organizing an Emergency Placement Committee to help relocate editorial employees and news photographers who now face job losses as a result of the three-newspaper merger set for Monday.

This may be the greatest editorial job crisis ever faced by New York City, since several hundred newspaper employees face dismissal. As a result, OPC President *Merrill Mueller* calls on all members to help the Committee in a job hunt which promises to last for several months.

Steve Korsen, Borden's PR director and chairman of the OPC's regular Placement Committee, and *Henry Gellermann*, Bache & Co.'s PR vice president, have been named co-chairmen of the Emergency Committee by Mueller. Korsen last week set the OPC plan in action by asking presidents of eleven related professional groups to join the Committee, and then by circulating a letter to all employers of editorial and photographic talents in the metropolitan area, urging them to fill openings from the ranks of the displaced newspaper employees.

The Committee's program is based on a self-help principle to be put to work by each of the eleven professional organizations. Each has been advised to register dislocated members, listing names, addresses and phone numbers, as well as work skills and specialties so that immediate contact can be made when job offers come to their attention.

OPC members affected by the merger are requested to register with the Club in this way, and by submitting resumes to the Committee. Members who know of job openings are urged to call Korsen at MU 7-4100 or Gellermann at 797-3600. The Committee's quest is primarily for permanent jobs but part-time or freelance assignments will also be in demand. The OPC will exchange job information with each of the participating groups. The New York City Emergency Newspaper Placement Committee includes: Harold Phelan, Newspaper Reporters Association; Harold Gold, Financial Writers Association; Eugene Haggerty, Society of the Silurians; *Rosalind Massow*, Newspaper Women's Club; Daniel Grossi, Press Photographers Association; Ed Silverman, Radio-Newsreel TV Working Press; Tom Coleman, Deadline Club, NYC chapter of Sigma Delta Chi; *Anita Diamant Berke*, Theta Sigma Phi; Terry Mayer, Publicity Club of New York; *Robert Fitz Gibbon*, New York Chapter, Public Relations Society of America, and Mueller, representing the OPC.

This Committee represents essentially the same groups which assisted professionals during the 1962-63 and 1965 strikes, and when *The New York Mirror* ceased publication in 1963. X